

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently amended) An apparatus comprising:
a first processor, ~~said~~ the first processor adapted to:
 identify a grid of pixels having a predetermined pattern of pixel values, the pattern optimized to reduce undesirable toner placement;
 obtain a predetermined pcode grid from a memory for the identified grid of pixels; and
 send the predetermined pcode grid to a controller circuit for printing.
2. (Currently amended) The apparatus recited in claim 1 wherein ~~said~~ the first processor is a ~~PCODE~~ pcode processor.
3. (Original) The apparatus recited in claim 2 further comprising a second processor adapted to format print data to pixel data, the pixel data including pixel values.
4. (Currently amended) The apparatus recited in claim 1 wherein ~~said~~ the first processor is adapted to format print data to pixel data, the pixel data including pixel values.
5. (Original) The apparatus recited in claim 1 wherein the grid of pixels is a six-pixel by six-pixel grid.
6. (Currently amended) The apparatus recited in claim 1 wherein the memory is a register internal to ~~said~~ the first processor.

7. (Original) The apparatus recited in claim 1 wherein the memory is non-volatile but re-writable memory.
8. (Currently amended) The apparatus recited in claim 1 wherein the memory is external to ~~said~~ the first processor.
9. (Original) The apparatus recited in claim 1 wherein the predetermined pattern of pixel values and its corresponding pcode grid applies to a first color and a second predetermined pattern of pixel values and its corresponding pcode grid applies to a second color.
10. (Original) The apparatus recited in claim 1 wherein the apparatus is selected from a group consisting of a printer, a copier, and a multifunction appliance.
11. (Currently amended) A method of printing data on a print medium, the method comprising:
 - identifying a grid of pixels having a predetermined pattern of pixel values;
 - obtaining a predetermined pcode grid ~~from memory~~ for the identified grid of pixels, the pcode grid being optimized to reduce undesired toner placement;
 - and
 - ~~sending printing~~ the predetermined pcode grid to controller circuit for printing.
12. (Currently amended) The method recited in claim 11 further comprising formatting printing data to pixel data, the pixel data including pixel values.
13. (Original) The method recited in claim 11 wherein the grid of pixels is a six-pixel by six-pixel grid.

14. (Currently amended) The method recited in claim 11 wherein the pcode grid is obtained from a ~~the memory is a register~~ internal to ~~said~~ a processor.
15. (Currently amended) The method recited in claim ~~11~~ 14 wherein the memory is ~~non-volatile but~~ further comprises re-writable memory.
16. (Currently amended) The method recited in claim 11 wherein the pcode grid is obtained from a memory ~~the memory is~~ external to a ~~said~~ processor.
17. (Original) The method recited in claim 11 wherein the predetermined pattern of pixel values and its corresponding pcode grid applies to a first color and a second predetermined pattern of pixel values and its corresponding pcode grid applies to a second color.
18. (New) An image forming apparatus comprising:
 - a memory for storing grid data for a plurality of predetermined patterns of pixel values to reduce undesired toner placement;
 - a processor in communication with the memory, the processor adapted to determine whether a set of received pixel data matches one of the predetermined patterns stored in the memory; and
 - a controller circuit in communication with the processor, the controller circuit for directing an output of an image in accordance with a grid data corresponding to one of the predetermined patterns.
19. (New) The apparatus recited in claim 18 wherein the processor is a pcode processor.
20. (New) The apparatus recited in claim 18 wherein the controller circuit further comprises a second processor adapted to format print data to pixel data, the

pixel data including pixel values.

21. (New) The apparatus recited in claim 18 wherein the processor is adapted to format print data to pixel data, the pixel data including pixel values.
22. (New) The apparatus recited in claim 18 wherein the received pixel data corresponds to a six-pixel by six-pixel grid.
23. (New) The apparatus recited in claim 18 wherein the memory is a register internal to the processor.
24. (New) The apparatus recited in claim 18 wherein the memory is non-volatile but re-writable memory.
25. (New) The apparatus recited in claim 18 wherein the memory is external to the processor.
26. (New) The apparatus recited in claim 18 wherein the predetermined pattern of pixel values and its corresponding pcode grid applies to a first color and a second predetermined pattern of pixel values and its corresponding pcode grid applies to a second color.
27. (New) The apparatus recited in claim 18 wherein the apparatus is selected from a group consisting of a printer, a copier, and a multifunction appliance.
28. (New) An image forming apparatus comprising:
 - means for storing grid data for a plurality of predetermined patterns of pixel values to reduce undesired toner placement;

processing means, in communication with the means for storing, for determining whether a set of received pixel data matches one of the stored predetermined patterns; and

means for controlling image output, in communication with the processing means, for directing the output of the image in accordance with grid data corresponding to one of the predetermined patterns.

29. (New) The apparatus recited in claim 28 wherein the processing means further comprises a pcode processor.
30. (New) The apparatus recited in claim 29 wherein the means for controlling further comprises a second processor adapted to format print data to pixel data, the pixel data including pixel values.
31. (New) The apparatus recited in claim 29 wherein the processor is adapted to format print data to pixel data, the pixel data including pixel values.
32. (New) The apparatus recited in claim 28 wherein the grid data further comprises a six-pixel by six-pixel grid.
33. (New) The apparatus recited in claim 28 wherein the means for storing is a register internal to the processing means.
34. (New) The apparatus recited in claim 28 wherein the means for storing is a non-volatile but re-writable memory.
35. (New) The apparatus recited in claim 28 wherein the means for storing is external to the processing means.

36. (New) The apparatus recited in claim 28 wherein the predetermined pattern of pixel values and its corresponding pcode grid applies to a first color and a second predetermined pattern of pixel values and its corresponding pcode grid applies to a second color.
37. (New) The apparatus recited in claim 28 wherein the apparatus is selected from a group consisting of a printer, a copier, and a multifunction appliance.